

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SOFTWARE SELLING**

**ABSTRACT**

- 5 Methods and system to progressively degrade a trial version of software products in various ways so as to permit the user to continue to use the product until the user becomes reliant on the product and becomes so frustrated that the user purchases the product. This approach, it may be noted, is also useful for discouraging illegal use of software without proper licenses. The trial or demonstration version of the software  
10 program may degrade in any one or more of a number of ways. For instance, the brightness may fade, the application window may shrink, the font may degrade, features may drop out, the display quality may degrade, the sound quality may diminish, the processing speed may decrease, or the network bandwidth may decrease.